

# docklines

FALL 2009

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MARINAS

## CALENDAR

### **Year-round EcoAdventures**

*Naturalist-guided excursions. Kayaking, canoeing, snorkeling...and more  
Various locations*

305-365-3018

[ecoventures@miamidade.gov](mailto:ecoventures@miamidade.gov)

[www.miamiecoadventures.org](http://www.miamiecoadventures.org)

### **Year-round Leisure Access**

*Programs and sports for children  
and adults with disabilities. Various locations*

305-365-6706

[www.miamidade.gov/parks](http://www.miamidade.gov/parks)

### **October 3 – 4, 2009**

#### **UCAF Dragon Boat Festival**

*Bill Bird Marina at Haulover Park  
10800 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach  
305-345-8489*

### **November 7 – 8, 2009**

#### **Ribfest 2009**

*Homestead Air Reserve Park  
SW 268 Street & 122 Avenue, Homestead  
305-233-3150*

### **November 26, 2009**

#### **Turkey Trot**

*5K & 10K running race  
Tropical Park  
7900 SW 40 Street, Miami  
786-315-5225*

### **November 27 – 29, 2009**

#### **Walk the Turkey Trail**

*Miami MetroZoo  
12400 SW 152 Street, Miami  
305-255-0400*

### **March 19 – 21, 2010**

#### **3rd Annual Miami International Agriculture and Cattle Show**

*Ronald Reagan Equestrian Center at  
Tropical Park  
7900 SW 40 Street, Miami  
305-755-7800*

### **March 28, 2010**

#### **Deering Seafood Festival**

*Deering Estate at Cutler  
16701 SW 72 Avenue, Miami  
305-235-1668, ext. 263*

## Bill Bird Marina Expansion Dedication A Huge Success

**T**he much-anticipated dedication of the expansion of Bill Bird Marina, formerly Haulover Marina, was celebrated August 8 in conjunction with National Marina Day. The activities got under way with a ribbon cutting ceremony which included District 4 Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Miami-Dade Parks Director Jack Kardys and numerous dignitaries from other municipalities.

Adults and children enjoyed fishing trips and seminars, a fish fry, face painting, food and beverages, music, and kite flying. Fire Department lifeguards simulated an ocean rescue, Parks' EcoAdventures provided free canoe and kayak trips, and the United Chinese-American Foundation performed a traditional dragon dance, had an exhibition dragon boat race and took everyone on free dragon boat rides. And much to everyone's delight, The Voices of

Heritage and the Everglades Bluegrass Association performed on stage.

The festival was such a success we are planning to make it an annual event! It's a great way to promote the marina, park, our lessees, and provide the community with a safe, affordable, and fun-filled way to spend a beautiful summer day.

The expanded marina's 155 slips represent the first major marina project in over 25 years in Miami-Dade County. And the new dockmaster's office adds the finishing touches on this first-class facility!

Drop by soon and see why everyone is so proud of Bill Bird Marina at Haulover Park. A big thanks to all who worked so hard to make this possible – marina lessees, event sponsors, vendors, construction crews, and Parks staff. You are the best! See you next year!



## AMIkids Students Dive into New Possibilities

Beautiful Homestead Bayfront Park and Marina was the backdrop for the 7th Annual President's Invitational Diving Event for Associated Marines Institutes Kids (AMIkids), a national non-profit organization based in Tampa which has dedicated itself to turn around troubled youth for 40 years. Eighteen teams consisting of 70 teens from around the country between the ages of 14 – 18 participated in activities such as scuba and skin diving, water safety and navigation, which teach kids teamwork, basic education and employable skills.

The young divers worked very hard to earn an invitation to the dive trip and their strong work ethic makes us so proud of their many accomplishments. Some of



these young men and women may seek jobs later in life in the marine industry. While all of the students will benefit from the courage and dedication they exhibited to complete the rigorous certification requirements, AMIkids dive instructors got tremendous

satisfaction training the kids and staff, some of whom were learning to swim!

Of the participants, 51 obtained open water certifications and seven obtained advanced open water certifications. AMIkids West Florida implemented a coral monitoring project for Coral Watch, committing to monitor a patch of the reef every year the event is held.

Since 1969, AMIkids has partnered with local communities to help more than 95,000 youth develop into responsible and productive citizens. For more information on this organization, please contact, Sherri Ulleg, Director of Communications, at (813) 887-3300, ext 3712 or [sulleg@amikids.org](mailto:sulleg@amikids.org).

Congratulations and thanks to all who participated in this worthwhile event!

## Pelican Island – Not Just for the Birds

It's also for you and your family and friends to enjoy! A beautiful seven-acre nature preserve located approximately 300 yards from Pelican Harbor Marina, Pelican Island has become a popular spot for birthday parties, weddings, reunions, anniversaries, corporate picnics, team building exercises, and baby showers. It has two large covered shelters that easily hold up to 50 people, BBQ grills, picnic tables, and a sand volleyball court for your fun and convenience.

And how do you get to this island, you ask? Why, on the Pelican Skipper, a 45-foot catamaran that is U.S. Coast Guard-certified and operated by Captain Steve, a licensed and extremely experienced boat captain. The boat holds 49 passengers and is available to carry all your supplies, generators, whatever you might need for your special occasion.

While on the Island, you can also enjoy a day of fishing, swimming, or just relaxing. For more information on renting the island shelters, call 305-754-9330.



## Another Year, Another Successful Blue Water Fishing Classic Tournament

The 6th Annual Blue Water Fishing Classic Tournament held June 6 brought together 57 boats to our six marinas and the Miami Outboard Club, where fishing enthusiasts of all ages enjoyed some heavy - albeit healthy - competition as they vied for up to \$30,000 in cash and prizes. County departments represented included Parks, DERM, Fire Rescue, GSA, MDPD, Transit, Public Works, Aviation, County Attorney's Office, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Prizes included first (\$1,500), second (\$750) and third (\$250) places and a \$100 savings bond for the junior angler at each marina, plus a \$1,500 lady angler grand prize and a \$250 savings bond junior angler



grand prize. And the DERM team – Miss Guided – won the \$1,500 first place prize at Pelican Harbor Marina, the County Manager's Grand Slam \$1,000 prize AND the \$5,000 grand prize for weighing in a whopping 76.6 pounds of fish. Congratulations, DERM, for going home \$7,500 richer!

The captains meet-and-greet party and the awards dinner, held at The Commons, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science on Key Biscayne, were a lot of fun and well attended.

We thank everyone who participated and the event's many sponsors for making it such a success. We look forward to seeing you at an even bigger and better Blue Water Fishing Classic Tournament next year!

## Thrilling 4th of July Celebration at Black Point Park and Marina

July 4 was an exciting day for approximately 8,000 residents, thanks to Black Point Park and Marina, in partnership with the Perrine Baseball and Softball Association and other sponsors, who generously donated time and financial resources to ensure that our nation's birthday was celebrated in style during the 6th Annual Fireworks Display.

The event included a "fly over" by the United States Coast Guard Falcon Jet, followed by a 30-minute fireworks display. Along with beautiful weather, children were treated to face painting, snow cones, popcorn, stilt walkers, and Miami-Dade's Fire Boat One. An old-fashioned picnic was enjoyed by 170 sponsors and family members at the Black Point shelter.

And let's not forget to thank the Miami-Dade Police "Special Events Division," who did an outstanding job in coordinating the traffic flow throughout the day and evening.





## Matheson Hammock Marina Receives Clean Marina Designation

Congratulations are in order to staff at Matheson Hammock Marina - the fourth Miami-Dade Park and Recreation marina to receive the Clean Marina Designation by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The June 17, 2009 award ceremony took place at the marina and in attendance were Miami-Dade County District 7 Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Parks staff and officials from the Florida DEP.

The Florida Clean Marina Program is a voluntary designation in which a marina engages in proactive, environmentally friendly practices in addition to regulatory requirements. Assistance in implementing best management practices is given to the marina through on- and off-site technical support, mentoring by other clean marinas and continuing education. To become designated as a Clean Marina, facilities must implement a set of environmental BMP designed to protect Florida's waterways. These best management practices address critical environmental issues such as sensitive habitat, waste management, storm-water control, spill prevention, and emergency preparedness. Designated facilities and those facilities seeking designation receive ongoing technical support from the Florida Clean Marina Program and the Clean Boating Partnership.

"As the Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department, we are committed to



the conservation and protection of our natural resources. We strive to provide recreational services to the public, while still maintaining clean and environment-friendly requirements," said Parks Director Jack Kardys. "We are honored to once again receive a Clean Marina award for another one of our marinas." Matheson joins Pelican Harbor, Black Point, and Herbert Hoover Marina at Homestead Bayfront Park in this prestigious honor.

"Florida's Clean Marinas are the key to protecting the state's waterways," said Jack Long, Director of the Department of Environmental Protection's Southeast District. "DEP is pleased to welcome Matheson Hammock to the Clean Marina family. The staff at Matheson Hammock truly recognizes the value in protecting our natural resources."

Kudos to all!

## Crandon Park Marina Showcases Improvements

A wonderful time was had by all at the July 17 dedication/ribbon cutting ceremony of the new dock master building at Crandon Park Marina. Attendees included area residents, Parks staff, and District 7 Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez's staff.

Built in the South Florida Vernacular-architectural style, the two-story, 2,250 square-foot dock master complex, considered the jewel of the marina, houses the dock master and marina staff offices, a new bait-and-tackle shop, restrooms, showers, and laundry facility, all ADA-accessible. The top floor features the marina offices overlooking the entire marina and providing better operations visibility. The lower level features the bait-and-tackle shop where boaters can buy a variety of boating and marine supplies, snacks, and refreshments. In addition, the lower level also houses a shower room and a laundry facility for boaters to use while at the marina. Additionally, all existing lights were replaced with new state-of-the-art halogen lighting, including at the boat ramps, thus improving nighttime visibility for patrons launching and retrieving vessels. As one marina staff member aptly put it, "The marina at night looks outstandingly beautiful!"

Crandon Park Marina features 425 wet slips, dry storage, and

moorings, as well as 10 commercial slips. It is one of the County's most popular marinas with 2,600 patrons using the marina on an average weekend.

Our dock master keeps an "open door" policy, so next time you're in the area, stop by for a hello and take a tour of the revamped facility. We're sure you'll be pleased with what you see!



## 'Casting for a Cause' A Big Success

Homestead Bayfront Park and Marina was the host of the first Casting for A Cause LLC Fishing Tournament. The event, which took place between the Everglades National and Biscayne National parks, benefitted two local non-profits – the Prader-Willi Syndrome Foundation and the Tropical Everglades Visitors Association.

Anglers enjoyed the rare opportunity to compete in both offshore and inshore divisions.



Inshore/backcountry anglers fished the Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park for snook, tarpon, permit, bonefish, and redfish. This division of the tournament is strictly catch-and-release. Offshore anglers departed from Biscayne National Park and Homestead Bayfront Marina and fished for sailfish, wahoo, kingfish, and dolphin. Sailfish were catch-and-release, while the other species were weighed in at the dock in the afternoon.

Casting for a Cause hosted a community day at Homestead Bayfront Park and Marina, and local organizations were present to offer conservation information, water safety and fishing tips to children and adults.

We hope to make Casting for a Cause an annual event and look forward to your participation in this worthy project.

## Boat Ramp Madness

Boat ramps at all six Miami-Dade County marinas have been so busy on the weekends that many must close before noon. To avoid the rush and long lines, why not call any of our marinas and make arrangements to stay in a slip for the weekend on a transient basis? All you have to do is contact us week in advance to reserve a space and beat the crowds. Before a holiday, reserve at least a month in advance as slips fill up even quicker. Ask any of our customers who stay in the marinas on weekends. They'll tell you reservations are the way to go!

If you are a member of Boat U.S. and present your card, you will receive a 25% discount on our already affordable fees.

Go ahead and make that reservation! What are you waiting for?



Carlos Alvarez  
Mayor



### Board of County Commissioners

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Vice Chairman

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Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

"It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act."

To request material in accessible format, information on access for persons with disabilities, or sign language interpreter services (7 days in advance), call 305-365-6706.

# Miami-Dade County Marinas



**Crandon Park Marina**  
4000 Crandon Boulevard  
Key Biscayne, FL 33149  
305-361-1281



**Pelican Harbor Marina**  
1275 NE 79 Street  
Miami, Florida 33138  
305-754-9330



**Bill Bird Marina  
at Haulover Park**  
10800 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33154  
305-947-3525



**Black Point Marina**  
24775 SW 87 Avenue  
Princeton, Florida 33032  
305-258-4092



**Homestead Bayfront Marina**  
9698 SW 328 Street  
Homestead, FL 33033  
305-230-3033



**Matheson Hammock Marina**  
9610 Old Cutler Road  
Miami, Florida 33156  
305-665-5475